

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-8. Cancelled

9. (Currently Amended) In a snow-trail grooming vehicle having a driving chain or track system and a cable assist pulling system having a cable winch, a method for controlling the cable winch comprising the steps of:

providing a central control system and a plurality of sensors for transmitting data to the central control system;
said sensors detecting a speed of the driving chain;
said sensors detecting a speed of the cable;
said central control system comparing the detected speed of the driving chain and the detected speed of the cable; and
said central control system determining a desired value for the speed of the cable and controlling the cable winch to attain the desired value for the speed of the cable.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the step of detecting a speed of the driving chain comprises directly detecting the speed of the driving chain

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the step of detecting a speed of the driving chain comprises detecting a magnitude proportional to the speed of the driving chain.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the step of detecting a speed of the cable comprises directly detecting the speed of the cable.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein the step of detecting a speed of the cable comprises detecting a magnitude proportional to the speed of the cable.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of detecting a pulling force in the cable and controlling the cable winch to maintain the pulling force below a specifiable highest value for the pulling force.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein a chain speed and a cable winch speed are detected.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein the speed of the cable is detected as a magnitude and a direction relative to a traveling direction of the snow-trail grooming vehicle.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of determining an angle of slope between a traveling direction of the snow-trail grooming vehicle and the horizontal, and a direction of the speed of the cable relative to the traveling direction, for determining the desired value for the speed of the cable.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of determining whether the driving chain of the snow-trail grooming vehicle is

slipping, for determining the desired value for the speed of the cable.

19. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a cable winch of a snow-trail grooming vehicle, comprising the steps of:

detecting a traveling speed of the snow-trail grooming vehicle over a ground surface according to direction and absolute value;

detecting a speed of a cable wound on the cable winch according to direction and absolute value;

comparing the detected traveling speed and the detected cable speed; and

determining a desired value for the cable speed for controlling the cable winch.

20. Cancelled